

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A process for forming a tissue product having a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter, said process comprising the steps of:

5 providing a superabsorbent material that is capable of absorbing at least about 20 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material;

providing a cellulosic fibrous material;

10 forming a paper web from said cellulosic fibrous material and said superabsorbent material, said superabsorbent material comprising less than about 10% by weight of said tissue product; and

at least partially drying said paper web.

2. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said superabsorbent material is provided in a dry state.

15 3. A process as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of at least partially preswelling said superabsorbent material before forming said paper web.

20 4. A process as defined in claim 3, wherein said superabsorbent material is preswollen to at least about 30% of the total swelling capacity of said superabsorbent material.

5. A process as defined in claim 3, wherein said superabsorbent material is preswollen to at least about 50% of the total swelling capacity of said superabsorbent material.

25 6. A process as defined in claim 3, wherein said superabsorbent material is preswollen to at least about 70% of the total swelling capacity of said superabsorbent material.

7. A process as defined in claim 3, wherein said superabsorbent material is preswollen to at least about 90% of the total swelling capacity of said superabsorbent material.

30 8. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said superabsorbent

material comprises between about 0.1% by weight to about 5% by weight of said tissue product.

5 9. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises between about 0.1% by weight to about 3% by weight of said tissue product.

10 10. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing at least about 50 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

11. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing between about 100 to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

12. A process as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a wet-strength agent to said paper web.

13. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said paper web is dried to have a moisture content of less than about 20% by weight of said web.

14. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said paper web is dried to have a moisture content of between about 5% to about 20% by weight of said web.

15 20 15. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said paper web is dried to have a moisture content of between about 5% to about 15% by weight of said web.

16. A process as defined in claim 1, wherein said paper web is dried to have a moisture content of between about 5% to about 10% by weight of said web.

17. A process as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of combining said superabsorbent material with said cellulosic fibrous material prior to forming said paper web.

18. A process for forming a tissue product having a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter, said process comprising the

steps of:

providing a superabsorbent material that is capable of absorbing at least about 20 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material;

5       preswelling said superabsorbent material to at least about 30% of the total swelling capacity of said superabsorbent material ;

providing a cellulosic fibrous material;

forming a paper web from said cellulosic fibrous material and said superabsorbent material, said superabsorbent material comprising  
10       between about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of said tissue product; and  
at least partially drying said paper web.

19. A process as defined in claim 18, wherein said paper web is dried to have a moisture content of between about 5% to about 20% by weight of said web.

15       20. A process as defined in claim 18, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises between about 0.1% by weight to about 3% by weight of said tissue product.

21. A process as defined in claim 18, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing at least about 50 grams of an aqueous  
20       solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

22. A process as defined in claim 18, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing between about 100 to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

23. A process as defined in claim 18, further comprising the step of  
25       combining said superabsorbent material with said cellulosic fibrous material prior to forming said paper web.

24. An absorbent tissue product comprising:

a cellulosic fibrous material;

a superabsorbent material, said superabsorbent material  
30       comprising up to about 10% by weight of said absorbent tissue product,

said superabsorbent material being capable of absorbing at least about 20 grams of water per gram of said superabsorbent material; and

wherein said absorbent tissue product has a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter.

5           25. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises between about 0.1% by weight to about 5% by weight of said absorbent tissue product.

10           26. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises between about 0.1% by weight to about 3% by weight of said absorbent tissue product.

15           27. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of less than about 50% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.

20           28. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of less than about 25% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.

25           29. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing at least about 50 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

30           30. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 24, wherein said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing between about 100 to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

35           31. An absorbent tissue product comprising:

40           a cellulosic fibrous material;

45           a superabsorbent material, said superabsorbent material comprising between about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of said absorbent tissue product, said superabsorbent material being capable of absorbing at least about 20 grams of water per gram of said superabsorbent material, wherein said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of

less than about 50% of the weight of said superabsorbent material; and  
wherein said absorbent tissue product has a basis weight less than  
about 100 grams per square meter.

5 32. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 31, wherein  
said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of less than about  
25% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.

33. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 31, wherein  
said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing at least about 50  
grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

10 34. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 31, wherein  
said superabsorbent material is capable of absorbing between about 100  
to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said  
superabsorbent material.

15 35. An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 31, wherein  
said superabsorbent material comprises between about 0.1% to about 3%  
by weight of said absorbent tissue product.

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